

REMARKS

In the Advisory Action mailed on August 30, 2005, the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 1-13, 17-21, 26-33, 37-47 and 51-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over White (White, VIT SeeChain Portal: An Information Portal for the Enterprise, Database Associates International, Inc. Version 2, August 1999) in view of PR Newswire (PR Newswire, VIT Announces Seechain Product Line – Five Supply Chain Performance Applications, PR Newswire, New York, 14 June 1999); and the rejection of claims 14-16, 22-25, 34-36, 48-50 and 56-65 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over White and PR Newswire in view of Flores et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,630,069).¹ Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth in the Amendment After Final of August 17, 2005.

Furthermore, in the Advisory Action identified above, the Examiner maintained that the claims contained “non-functional descriptive material.” (Advisory Action at 2.) Applicants disagree with the Examiner’s allegations, however, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the independent claims to clarify the features of the claimed invention and more positively recite functional descriptive material. None of the cited references, either taken alone or in any proper combination, teach or suggest all of the

¹ The Examiner, in the Final Office Action mailed on May 17, 2005, also rejected claims 1, 6, 26, 40, 58, and 62 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite and rejected claims 1, 6, 26, 40, 58, and 62 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being improper process claims. In the Amendment After Final filed on August 17, 2005, Applicants amended the claims to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112 and § 101 rejections. In the Advisory Action, since the Examiner indicated the amendments were entered, Applicants assume that the 35 U.S.C. § 112 and 101 rejections were withdrawn.


features of the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections and to allow the claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of claims 1-65.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,
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By: 
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